

J.C. Watts, Jr.
Chairman
4th District, Oklahoma

*House Meets at 9:00 a.m. for Morning Hour and
10:00 a.m. for Legislative Business*

Anticipated Floor Action:

H.R. 916—Technical Corrections to U.S. Code

H.Res. ___—Honoring the U.S. Women's Soccer Team

H.R. 2465—FY 2000 Military Construction Appropriations Act

H.R. 2466—FY 2000 Interior Appropriations Act



Bills Considered Under Suspension of the Rules

Floor Situation: The House is scheduled to consider the following two bills under suspension of the rules as its first order of business today. Each is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

H.R. 916—Technical Corrections to U.S. Code makes certain modifications to correct a drafting error in a subsection of U.S. Code that deals with domestic and international arbitration law. In addition, the measure corrects punctuation and other grammatical errors. CBO estimates that enactment will have no impact on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Gekas; the Judiciary Committee reported the bill by voice vote on May 4, 1999.

H.Res. ___—Honoring the U.S. Women's Soccer Team congratulates the U.S. women's soccer team for winning the 1999 Women's World Cup tournament. The resolution recognizes the achievement of each team player and invites the members to the U.S. Capitol to be honored by the House of Representatives. Last Saturday, July 10, 90,185 spectators in the Rose Bowl—and countless Americans via television—watched the U.S. women's soccer team defeat the People's Republic of China to earn the third Women's World Cup. This victory has helped raise awareness and support for women's sports nationwide. In addition, the U.S. women's soccer team has also qualified for the 2000 Summer Olympics. The resolution was introduced by Mr. Kuykendall and was not considered by a committee.



H.R. 2465—FY 2000 Military Construction Appropriations Act

Floor Situation: The House will consider H.R. 2465 after it completes consideration of the scheduled suspensions. Appropriations bills are privileged and may be considered any time three days after they are filed; they are debatable for one hour and are subject to one motion to recommit. Yesterday, the House adopted an open rule that accords priority in recognition to members who have their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. It waives House rules that prohibit unauthorized appropriations and legislative provisions in an appropriations bill. The rule permits the chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 2465 appropriates approximately \$8.5 billion for military construction for FY 2000, \$3 billion more than the president's request. This large discrepancy is the result of the president's request to spread out funding for military projects over a number of years to free up more money for overall defense spending in FY 2000. Overall funding levels for FY 2000 are identical to last year's levels, excluding two FY 1999 emergency appropriations. All projects funded in H.R. 2465 were authorized in the House-passed version of the FY 2000 Defense Authorization bill (H.R. 1401).

Specifically, the bill appropriates:

- * \$4.2 billion for military construction projects (\$2.8 billion more than the president's request and \$437 million more than in FY 1999);
- * \$3.6 billion for family housing (\$481 million more than the president's request and \$8 million more than last year);
- * \$706 million for base realignment and closure accounts (equal to the president's request); and
- * \$81 million for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization security investment program (\$110 million less than the president's request and \$73 million less than the FY 1999 amount).

CBO estimates that enactment will result in discretionary outlays of \$2.47 billion in FY 2000, \$3.1 billion in FY 2001, \$1.7 billion in FY 2002, \$623 million in FY 2003, and \$512 million in FY 2004 and beyond. The Appropriations Committee reported the bill by voice vote on July 1, 1999.

Views: Both the Republican Leadership and the Clinton Administration support passage of this measure.

Amendments: The *Legislative Digest* was unaware of any amendments at press time.

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVIII, #20, July 9, 1999.



H.R. 2466—FY 2000 Interior Appropriations Act

Floor Situation: The House will consider H.R. 2466 after it completes consideration of H.R. 2465. Yesterday, the Rules Committee granted an open rule providing one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Appropriations Committee. The rule waives House rules that (1) prohibit consideration of legislation containing new contract or entitlement authority; (2) prohibit consideration of legislation within the Budget Committee's jurisdiction unless reported by the Budget Committee; and (3) prohibit unauthorized or legislative provisions in an appropriations measure. It makes in order a manager's amendment by Mr. Young or his designee. It accords priority in recognition to members who have their amendments pre-printed in *Congressional Record*. The chairman of the Committee on the Whole may postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 2466 appropriates \$14.1 billion in new FY 2000 budget authority, \$193.2 million less than last year (although the FY 1999 amount includes \$276.6 million in FY 1999 emergency funding) and \$1.2 billion less than the president's request. Approximately half of the bill's funding, \$7.1 billion, finances Interior Department programs to manage and study the nation's animal, plant, and mineral resources. The balance of the measure's funds support other, non-Interior agencies that perform related functions. These include the Forest Service, conservation and fossil energy programs run by the Energy Department, and the Indian Health Service, as well as the Smithsonian Institution and similar cultural organizations. Specifically, the measure provides:

- * \$1.4 billion for the operation of the National Parks, \$99.4 million more than last year and \$2.3 million less than the president's request;
- * \$840.2 million for the Fish and Wildlife Service, \$408,000 more than in FY 1999 and \$109.8 million less than the president's request;
- * \$2.4 billion for the Indian Health Service, \$155.6 million more than in FY 1999 and \$14.5 million less than the president's request;
- * \$1.8 billion for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, \$41.6 million more than last year and \$114.1 million less than the president's request;
- * \$114 million for Everglades restoration, an increase of \$11.4 million over last year for land acquisition, park management, and water delivery modifications;

In addition, the measure includes (1) \$98 million for the National Endowment for the Arts and \$110.7 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities (both equal to the FY 1999 level); (2) \$438.4 million for the Smithsonian (a \$26.1 million increase); (3) \$67.8 million for the National Gallery of Art (a \$3.5 million increase); (4) \$32.4 million for the Kennedy Center (a \$254,000 increase); and (5) \$33.3 million for the Holocaust Museum (\$1.7 million less than the FY 1999 level).

CBO estimates that enactment of H.R. 2466 will result in discretionary outlays of \$9.3 billion in FY 2000, \$3.8 billion in FY 2001, \$785 million in FY 2002, \$294 million in FY 2003, and \$49 million in 2004 and beyond.

Views: The Republican Leadership supports passage of the bill. The president opposes certain provisions in the bill, including (1) the amount authorized for restoring the Everglades; (2) the prevention of funds from being used to support the American Heritage Rivers Program; (3) the lack of funding for programs in the Lands Legacy Initiative, specifically the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund and the State and Private Forestry Grant Program; and (4) the current level of funding for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), which he argues is insufficient.

Amendments: At press time, the *Legislative Digest* was aware of the following amendments to H.R. 2466:

—*Manager's Amendment*—

Mr. Young (FL) may offer a manager's amendment to reduce funding in the bill for each account, program, or activity by 0.48 percent. The amendment also decreases funding provided for land acquisition by the Bureau of Land Management from \$20 million to \$15 million. Specifically, the amendment removes \$5 million of funding earmarked for the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River in Montana; and (3) defers \$256 million instead of \$190 million in previously appropriated Clean Coal Technology funding until FY 2001. Overall, the amendment reduces the bill's spending by approximately \$138 million. **Staff Contact:** *Deb Weatherly, x5-3081*

—*Other Amendments*—

Mr. Crowley may offer an amendment to expand bill language regarding National Endowment for the Arts assistance programs for underserved populations to specifically include urban minorities. **Staff Contact:** *Adam Wolf, x5-3965*.

Mr. DeFazio may offer an amendment (#1) to prohibit funds in the bill from being used to carry out, or pay the salaries of any Forest Service employees who carry out, the recreational fee demonstration program. The program, authorized in the FY 1996 Omnibus Appropriations Act (*P.L. 104-134*), has become increasingly controversial in western states. Proponents of the program argue that it allows parks and public land agencies to generate funds locally for maintenance and operational enhancements. Opponents, however, believe that the program is merely a new tax on hikers, boaters, and other recreational users for them to enjoy public land, and that local agencies have shown little in the way of improvements for their fee collecting efforts. **Staff Contact:** *Jeff Stier, x5-6416*

Mr. DeFazio may offer an amendment (#2) to prohibit funds in the bill from being used to fine or enforce a fee imposed in the recreational fee demonstration program. **Staff Contact:** *Jeff Stier, x5-6416*

Mr. Faleomavaega may offer an amendment to allow American Samoa to receive a loan of \$18.6 million in FY 2000, which will be repaid from its proceeds from a settlement agreement with tobacco manufacturers. Under the agreement, the territorial government will receive approximately \$40 million over the next 26 years. The amendment mandates that \$14.3 million of the \$18.6 million loan be used for debt repayment, with the additional \$4.3 available for financial reform. **Staff Contact:** *Martin Yerick, x5-8577*

Mr. Farr may offer an amendment (#3) to prohibit the use of jawed leghold traps or neck snares in the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS) except for research, subsistence, conservation, or to protect NWRS facilities. **Staff Contact:** *Debbie Merrill, x5-2681*

Mr. Hastings (WA) may offer an amendment to require congressional approval of an administration plan to expand the national wildlife refuge at Hanford Reach in Washington state. Currently, the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) manages 90,000 acres of land owned by the Energy Department. The remaining 60,000 acres is controlled by state fish and game officials. The administration has proposed to transfer management over the entire area to FWS. *Staff Contact: Craig Kennedy, x5-5816*

Messrs. Hayworth, Young, Kildee, and George Miller may offer an amendment (#4) to delete provisions in the bill that grant a proportionate distribution of the cost funding contracts between Indian tribes and the Indian Health Services under the Indian Self-Determination Act. Proponents of this amendment argue that granting proportionate distributions between tribes punishes those tribes with the longest history of providing their own health services. *Staff Contact: Suzy Geroux, x5-2190*

Mr. Kucinich may offer an amendment (#5) to allow funding provided in the bill to be used for the American Heritage Rivers program. *Staff Contact: Dan Marschall, x5-5871*

Messrs. McGovern, Campbell, Hoeffel, and Holt may offer an amendment (#6) to provide an additional \$30 million for the state-side matching grant program in the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Under the amendment, states may receive up to \$2 million for open space and recreational needs. Currently, the bill allocates no funds for the state-side portion of LWCF. *Staff Contact, Giles Giovinnazzi, x5-6101*

Mr. Mica may offer an amendment (#7) to earmark \$9 million from the \$42.4 million provided in the bill for federal land acquisition in Florida to acquire land along the St. John's River in central Florida. *Staff Contact: Gary Burns, x5-4035*

Mr. George Miller may offer an amendment (#8) to increase funding for the National Park Service Recreation and Preservation account by \$4 million, to a new total of \$49.4 million, and decrease funding for the Insular Affairs Territorial Assistance program by \$4 million to \$34.6 million. *Staff Contact, David Watkins, x6-2311*

Mr. George Miller may offer an amendment (#9) to provide \$4 million for the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) Program. UPARR provides locally matched federal financial support to communities for improving public recreational facilities and programs. To finance the increase UPARR funding, the amendment reduces funding for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by an equal amount. *Staff Contact, David Watkins, x6-2311*

Mr. George Miller may offer an amendment (#10) to allocate \$199.7 million of funding provided for the National Forest System specifically for timber sales management and \$123.8 million for wildlife and fisheries habitat management. H.R. 2466 currently provides \$1.3 billion for total NFS funding. *Staff Contact: David Watkins, x6-2311*

Mr. George Miller may offer an amendment to prohibit funds in the bill from being used to construct timber access roads in the National Forest System. *Staff Contact: David Watkins, x6-2311*

Mr. Ney may offer an amendment (#12) to reduce the total amount for departmental management in the Interior Department by \$5 million to \$57.9 million. *Staff Contact: Maria Robinson, x5-6264*

Messrs. Rahall, Shays, and Inslee may offer an amendment to prohibit any of the bill's funds from being used to process applications regarding mining claims or operations that use more than five acres of public land to dispose of mining waste. Currently, the 1872 mining law allows up to five acres of public land to be used for waste disposal, but amendment supporters claim that the mining industry is seeking to circumvent the restriction. *Staff Contact: Jim Zoia (Rahall), x5-3452*

Messrs. Sanders, Boucher, Kind, Rahall, Brown (OH), Ackerman, and Ms. Velazquez may offer an amendment (#14) to increase the Weatherization Assistance Program by \$13 million to its FY 1999 level of \$133 million. *Staff Contact: Warren Gunnels (Sanders), x5-4115*

Messrs. Sanders, Kind, Brown (OH), Ackerman, and Ms. Velazquez may offer an amendment (#15) to remove the bill's requirement that states participating in the Weatherization Assistance Program share 25 percent of program costs. *Staff Contact: Warren Gunnels (Sanders), x5-4115*

Messrs. Sanders, Lewis (KY), Stupak, and Oberstar may offer an amendment (#13) to (1) cut \$50 million from the fossil energy research and development program; (2) increase the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program (PILT) from \$125 million to \$145 million; and (3) provide \$30 million in deficit reduction. *Staff Contact: Warren Gunnels (Sanders), x5-4115*

Messrs. Sanders, Lewis (KY), and Stupak may offer an amendment to decrease funding for the Albany Research Center in Oregon by \$50 million and increase funding for Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) by \$20 million, with the remainder being applied to deficit reduction. *Staff Contact: Warren Gunnels (Sanders), x5-4115*

Messrs. Weldon (FL) and Barr may offer an amendment to prohibit funding in the bill from being used to approve Class III gambling (i.e., casino-style gambling) on Indian lands by any means other than through a tribal-state agreement. *Staff Contact: Sarah Dumont(Barr), x5-2931*

Mr. Weller may offer an amendment to eliminate the National Endowment for the Arts and establish a grant program to local schools for art programs and teachers. The amendment reallocates the \$98 million provided in the bill for the NEA as grants to states based on their respective student populations. The amendment also requires that (1) 95 percent of grant funding go directly to classrooms; (2) states assure that the funding be used to supplement, instead of supplant, local funding; and (3) any art programs funded do not promote or contain any obscene or explicit art. *Staff Contact: Ben Fallon, x5-3635*

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVIII, #20, July 9, 1999.

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House REPUBLICAN Conference Amendment Alert!

Please attach the text of the amendment (if available) and fax to the *Legislative Digest* at x5-7298

J.C. Watts, Jr.
Chairman
4th District, Oklahoma

Member Sponsoring Amendment: _____ Bill #: _____

Additional Co-sponsors (if any): _____

Staff Contact: _____ Phone #: _____ Evening Phone #: _____

Description of the amendment: _____

(Please include any additional or contextual information)

Reason for offering amendment (e.g., How will this change the bill or current law? Why should members support this change?): _____

Legislative Digest reserves the right to edit descriptions for style, readability, and provisional accuracy.

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